



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors of the Corporation

FROM: Peter E. Maricondo  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

DATE: January 25, 2006

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation (SCC)  
December Progress Report

### **Mission Statement**

*Create a brighter future for our children by renovating, building and funding cost-effective and efficient state-of-the-art community schools that support high quality learning environments to better prepare students for successful careers and leadership in the 21st Century in New Jersey and beyond.*

*Partner with communities and leaders in business, education and government to support our programs, policies and projects to create greater opportunities for our children, businesses and workforce.*

### **Introduction**

In December, the SCC joined students and school district officials in the Town of Harrison for a beam signing and topping off ceremony for the new Harrison High School. Another SCC project, the Neptune Township Early Childhood Center, received the 2005 AIA NJ Smart Growth Architecture Award for School Construction Design for transforming a former light-industrial factory into a state-of-the-art pre-school. Also in December, the SCC executed 15 grants that impacted 15 schools in 6 counties with 7 districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. These Section 15 grants supported projects totaling \$27 million – with a state share totaling over \$7 million.

Since inception, SCC has committed support to over 2,700 school construction projects at nearly 1,800 schools. Currently, SCC has 31 new school projects completed, 69 under construction and another 59 in the pipeline. SCC is building early childhood education centers, launching school-based community revitalization efforts and strengthening the economy by creating job and business opportunities for companies large and small.



### **Students Sign Beam, Top Off New Harrison High School**

Harrison students took part in a Beam Signing and Topping Off ceremony December 21<sup>st</sup> for the new \$60 million state-of-the-art Harrison High School. Joining the students were representatives of Harrison School District and the SCC, along with parents, teachers, area officials and community supporters.

The celebration marked a major milestone in construction, which got under way last January. It is scheduled for completion by spring 2007.



The 167,000-square-foot facility will accommodate 850 students in 9th through 12th grades. It will include 30 general classrooms, four special education classrooms, two classrooms for small group instruction, two gymnasiums, a media center, science labs, a computer room and an instrumental/vocal music room. The school, designed by EI Associates, Architects and Engineers, is being built by Terminal Construction Corporation. Bovis Lend-Lease is the SCC's project management firm, in alliance with Imperial Construction Group.

SCC is managing the project and funding the eligible construction costs for the school being built on a 10-acre parcel in the northwest corner of the Town of Harrison.



## ***Neptune Township Early Childhood Center Earns 2005 AIA NJ Smart Growth Design Award***

The Neptune Township Early Childhood Center – a former light-industrial factory transformed into a state-of-the-art pre-school through the SCC building program – has received the 2005 AIA NJ Smart Growth Architecture Award for School Construction Design.

It is the second SCC school facility in Neptune to receive accolades for innovative design.

The AIA NJ award recognizing the SCC's role in promoting Smart Growth was presented at the recent League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City by the New Jersey Society of Architects, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth under the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA).

Also receiving 2005 Smart Growth Awards were Kellenyi Johnson Wagner Architects, which designed the project, the Neptune Board of Education, Neptune Township and NJDCA.

"I congratulate the NJ Schools Construction Corporation, the Neptune Township Board of Education, and the design team from Kellenyi Johnson Wagner for their work on the Neptune Early Childhood Center," said Charles A. Richman, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. "With the help of school construction

funds and the creative adaptive reuse of an existing industrial warehouse, this partnership has created not just a school, but a facility that will serve as an anchor to the entire community.”

The \$7.4 million, 46,000-square-foot Early Childhood Center, which opened last year, accommodates 270 three- and four-year-olds. The facility includes 18 classrooms, a Learning Center, multi-purpose room and recreation areas available for community use. Hall Construction built the ECC. Gilbane Building Company managed the project for the SCC.



In keeping with the state’s Smart Growth guidelines, SCC relocated the light-industry – Sea Jay Manufacturing, makers of plastic injector molding machinery – to a rehabilitated derelict building across the street – retaining its 17 jobs and township tax ratables.

"The Neptune Township Board of Education is pleased to have been recognized for the process it utilized which has achieved such a wonderfully useful and efficient educational facility. It is appropriate to also recognize and acknowledge the contributions of former Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael T. Lake who was instrumental in bringing together this effective group of collaborators,” said current Superintendent David A. Mooij.

Peter E. Maricondo, Acting CEO of SCC, “We are proud to receive such recognition for the design of the Early Childhood Center, which furthers the purpose of New Jersey’s Smart Growth initiative while meeting both the educational and community needs of our children.”



**Playground**

The ECC is on a campus that includes the Neptune Midtown Community School and a proposed urban park by RM Hanna, Landscape Architects and Planners.

The unique design of the Community School has been honored in its own right, receiving the Special Recognition Award from the Council of Educational Facilities Planners, International.

The prestigious Ohio research group KnowledgeWorks Foundation also included the \$31 million state-of-the-art midtown facility among its “Schools as Centers of Community



Honor Society” after a nationwide search for the ultimate examples of community school development.

The 149,000-square-foot facility – which KnowledgeWorks Foundation called “one of the most interesting schools in the country” – will offer 21<sup>st</sup> century opportunities in science, math and technology for 700 pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and special education classes.

Designed to meet LEED environmental guidelines, the school will be a “textbook” itself. The building will feature Plexiglas sections of floors, walls and ceilings to reveal aspects of mechanical and other inner workings for students to study as part of the curriculum. Its community features include intergenerational tutoring – senior citizens and students working together. It also will be a site for the Cops in Schools Program and a health services center.

The unique aspects of the Community School have drawn praise at presentations in Georgia, Florida, and Edison and Trenton, NJ, much to the satisfaction of SCC and district officials, architects SSP, and the SCC’s project management firm, Gilbane Building Company.



**Media Center**

### **Construction Starts**

SCC awarded three construction packages in 2 districts during December for combined construction cost estimates totaling \$3,743,000. These awards involve schools in the Newark and New Brunswick districts. (Exhibit A)

**As of December 31, 2005, the SCC has entered into construction contracts that total \$2,527,041,632 since the inception of the program.**

## **Contractor Procurement**

SCC advertised 3 construction packages in December impacting schools in East Orange, Elizabeth and Orange Township districts. (Exhibit B)

One design bid was advertised for a school project in Newark. (Exhibit C)

## **School District Grants**

In December 2005, the SCC executed 15 Section 15 grants with 7 districts receiving less than 55% of their funding in state aid. The grants impacted 7 schools in 6 counties throughout the State. The total project costs for these grants are \$27,226,339, which qualified for a state share totaling \$7,060,406.

**From its inception in 2002 through December 31, 2005, the SCC has executed 2,406 Section 15 grant agreements in all 21 counties with districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. Total project costs amount to \$7,012,671,438, for which the state share totaled \$2,172,004,876. In 2005 alone, 203 districts in 21 counties have been earmarked for \$531,561,188 in direct property tax relief as the state share of project costs that totaled \$1,650,311,922.**

## **Division of Diversity, Small Business, Government And Community Affairs**

The Schools Construction Corporation Division of Diversity, Small Business, Government and Community Affairs is dedicated to increasing the availability and accessibility of construction opportunities for small, women, and minority-owned businesses, and to individuals and their families in New Jersey. In some instances this means working with other State agencies and departments to serve our target population. In

others, it is working with our project management firms (PMF) and other internal SCC divisions to encourage business opportunities and equal employment opportunities in the school construction program. The Division encourages firms that do business with the SCC to support diversity within their ranks and in their hiring. At every opportunity, the Division endeavors to promote the use of New Jersey's diverse business and workforce communities on SCC projects. Further programmatic information is available on the SCC website at [www.njscc.com](http://www.njscc.com).



## **Conferences/Presentations**

New Harrison High School Topping Off Ceremony, 12/21/2005, Harrison

---

Peter E. Maricondo

Prepared by: Kevin McElroy

Attachments

**Construction Award Status Report**

<b><u>District</u></b>	<b><u>Schools</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Work</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Award</u></b>	<b><u>Notice to Proceed</u></b>
Newark	West Side High School	Involves demolishing several structures on 9 property lots on the proposed site for the West Side High School addition project. The property lots are bordered to existing West Side High School on South 12th Street between S. Orange Avenue and 13th Avenue in Newark, NJ. The work also includes abatement of ACM and removal of the UST.	\$2,087,087.00	12/12/2005
Newark	West Side High School	This work involves construction a perimeter fence around 8 property lots on the proposed site for the West Side High School addition project. The property lots are bordered to existing West Side High School on South 12th Street between S. Orange Avenue and 13th Avenue in Newark, NJ.	\$43,299.00	12/12/2005
New Brunswick	Redshaw ES	Demolition of Redshaw ES.	\$1,579,000.00	12/26/2005



### Construction Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of January 25, 2006

[illegible]

Exhibit B

**Design Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of January 25, 2006**

[illegible]

Exhibit C